

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES

Over the past few decades, impressive gains have occurred improving the health status of racial and ethnic minority populations in New Jersey. However, disturbing disparities remain between minority and white populations in areas of access to health care and health outcomes.

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (NJDHSS) is committed to inform and serve New Jersey's diverse communities and to work toward eliminating disparities in health for racial and ethnic populations. In an effort to contribute to the reduction of these disparities, and with funding and technical support from NJDHSS, OMMH and NJN have created this Video as a tool in addressing and combating these disparities. The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services commends the production of this resource.

Sincerely,

Clifton R. Lacy M.D.
Commissioner
New Jersey Department of
Health and Senior Services

NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF MINORITY AND MULTICULTURAL HEALTH

The New Jersey Office of Minority and Multicultural Health is excited about the release of a new video documentary, entitled “Sharing Help, Sharing Hope.” The video highlights some of the activities of minority HIV/AIDS coalitions in promoting HIV/AIDS awareness.

The enclosed video was designed to help local organizations that want to replicate the community mobilization efforts of the target cities highlighted in this short documentary. A companion guide to “Sharing Help, Sharing Hope” is also available to encourage the further development of effective HIV/AIDS education, prevention and treatment programs in minority communities. We encourage you to join in the growing efforts to address HIV/AIDS in minority communities.

More than 20 years following the beginning of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, minorities continue to be disproportionately affected by the disease. Our mission is to help improve the health status of those living with HIV/AIDS and to help prevent further transmission of the disease. We look forward to working with you to make a difference. Thank you for your interest in a copy of “Sharing Help, Sharing Hope.”

Sincerely,

Linda Holmes, Executive Director
New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services
Office of Minority and Multicultural Health

HIV/AIDS VIDEO COMPANION GUIDE

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the purpose of this video?

A: The purpose of this video is to mobilize communities in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Q: Can I start a "Network" by myself?

A: Yes. Start by identifying the stakeholders in your community. Set a meeting; establish goals and a mission. You can be the catalyst in getting people you know to start a dialog or offer your expertise to the organization in helping it get off the ground.

Q: Does it have to be a sharing Network?

A: No. It can be a community organization; a co-alliance or a faith based coalition.

Q: Do I have to belong to an HIV/AIDS service provider to get involved?

A: No. You can be a Minority Community Based Organization, Community Based Organization, Faith Based Organization or anyone who reaches target population.

Q: What does the Network do?

A: The Network ascertains the HIV/AIDS needs of the community, works to establish linkages and seeks to increase resource information. It is a body that shares information and may help with referrals.

Q: Where can Sharing Networks meet?

A: Libraries, places of worship, or at member organizations, any place where people congregate.

Q: Do I need money to start?

A: No. Get your organization together and then explore funding opportunities from state, federal resources, businesses and foundations.

Q: Tell me about public partnerships?

A: You may also solicit local business or pharmaceutical companies for their support.

Q: Do I need to be a non-profit organization?

A: No. You may want to consider formalizing your network by getting 501(c) 3 status once your organization is in place.

Q: How do I know what the biggest health needs / problem is in my community?

A: Begin by contacting your local Health Department.

Q: Are there other resources about HIV/AIDS?

A: Yes. Read on.

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STATE RESOURCES

New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services **Division of [AIDS Prevention and Control Service Units](#)**

Care and Treatment Unit - (609) 984-6328 Oversees the development of integrated systems of care designed to address the care and treatment needs of persons living with HIV in New Jersey. This unit serves as the Ryan White Title II grantee in New Jersey and oversees the CARE Act initiatives, which include the [AIDS Drug Distribution Program](#), the [HIV Home Health Care Program](#), the [Health Insurance Continuation Program](#), and the regional [HIV Care Consortia](#). In addition, this unit serves as liaison to and collaborates with other federally funded Ryan White programs in the state on policy and program initiatives. Other projects administered through this office include the federal Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) program, HIV/AIDS care and support services, and the HIV Early Intervention Programs (EIP) which offer medical care and case management for persons living with HIV.

Counseling and Testing Services Unit - (609) 984-6125 Oversees the development, coordination and maintenance of geographically accessible, comprehensive HIV networks of counseling and testing and intervention services in the State. Federal funding through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is combined with State funding to support: HIV counseling and testing programs; partner notification services; referral to early intervention and ambulatory care resources; counseling and testing research studies, and data analysis; HIV prevalence and incidence studies; and program evaluation.

HIV Counseling and Testing is available in over 300 health care settings, including hospitals, community health centers, drug treatment centers, local health departments, sexually transmitted disease clinics, tuberculosis clinics, family planning and prenatal clinics, correctional institutions, and a variety of community-based agencies. Over 65,000 HIV tests are conducted annually through this network. Call (609)984-6125 for a site nearest you.

The Notification Assistance Program - (NAP) provides field investigators who conduct confidential field investigations of sexual and needle-sharing partners, of HIV infected individuals, and conducts post-test follow-up of confidentially tested HIV positive patients who fail to return for their test results. Field investigators also conduct HIV counseling and testing of sex and needle-sharing partners located. HIV testing is conducted by a non-invasive procedure to collect oral mucosal transudate.

Prevention and Education - (609 984-6050) Is responsible for planning, establishing, developing, and monitoring community-based HIV prevention projects that utilize street/community outreach, health education/risk reduction interventions, and HIV prevention case management to reduce high-risk behavior among injection drug users their sex partners, men who have sex with men, at-risk women and youth. Statewide provision of HIV-related training for HIV antibody test counselors, educators, and care/service providers; provision of technical assistance to community-based HIV prevention projects, and provision of public information via the NJ AIDS/STD Hotline (1-800-624-2377) and the distribution of printed materials.

HIV/AIDS Surveillance Unit - (609 984-5940) Collects, manages, reviews, analyzes, interprets, and disseminates information from HIV/AIDS surveillance activities. The data containing all the confidential HIV and AIDS case reports from field investigations, health care providers and laboratories are analyzed, interpreted and maintained in the confidential HIV/AIDS registry. Summary reports are disseminated through the [HIV/AIDS quarterly summaries](#).

[NJ AIDS/STD Hotline 1-800-624-2377](#)

The New Jersey Women and AIDS Network

The New Jersey Women and AIDS Network (NJWAN) was founded in May 1988 out of the recognition that an independent voice was needed to express the needs of women in the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

The mission of New Jersey Women and AIDS Network is to:

- Reduce the spread of HIV infection in women;
- Support the self-determination of women living with HIV/AIDS to better access quality care and treatment; educate service providers; and advocate for appropriate policies in the women and AIDS pandemic

NJWAN

982 Summit Avenue,
Lower Level

Jersey City, NJ 07307

Phone: (201) 239-5777

Fax: (201) 239-5779

Email: NJWAN@AOL.COM

NJWAN

5 Elm Row, Suite 112

New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Phone: (732) 846-4462

Fax: (732) 846-2674

Sister Connect Warmline:

NJWAN@AOL.COM web page www.njwan.org

New Jersey HIV Prevention Community Planning Group

The New Jersey HIV Prevention Community Planning Group (NJHPCPG) includes experts in a variety of fields including community representatives, educators, health department personnel, intervention specialists, outreach workers, persons infected with / affected by HIV/AIDS, program directors, and students. Members of this planning group are chosen based on the principles of parity, inclusion, and representation. Some of their committees include; Infected/Affected, Needs Assessment, Nomination, Incarcerated Populations, Evaluation, Executive, Youth, Sexual Issues, Substance Use, Counseling and Testing and Linking Information for Education Life. For more information about the NJHPCPG'S meeting times and locations, or to obtain a membership application please call (732) 932-3740

NJHPCPG
Willets Health Center
Rutgers, The State University of NJ
11 Suydam Street
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-2889
(732) 932-3740
(732) 932-3739 (Fax)

Hyacinth Aids Foundation

Hyacinth is the first and largest AIDS service organization in New Jersey. Founded in 1985, it is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt agency.

Hyacinth's mission is to help people live with HIV, slow the spread of the epidemic and serve as a critical voice in the public debate surrounding AIDS in New Jersey.

Hyacinth AIDS Foundation
78 New Street
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
(732) 246-0204
www.hyacinth.org

Organizing for Community Development (OCD)

The mission of OCD is to help reduce the incidence of HIV infection in New Jersey by building the capacity and skills of community - based organizations, service providers, local health departments and the interfaith community

Organizing for Community Development's (OCD) mission, is actualized by striving to meet the following objectives:

- Promote the growth of HIV prevention capabilities in New Jersey communities. This goal is addressed by the commitment of OCD to provide technical assistance and training to not-for-profit organizations in developing, implementing and evaluating local HIV prevention programs.
- Increase the impact of the [New Jersey HIV Prevention Community Planning Group \(NJHPCPG\)](#) in our communities by helping NJHPCPG members take active leadership roles in the HIV prevention, community-planning process.
- Support the development of local HIV prevention task forces throughout New Jersey, and to serve as a resource to [capacity building](#) organizations (CBO) in identifying private funding to continue their local HIV prevention efforts.

Training Information

Organizing for Community Development (OCD) provides several training services to non-profit staff and other interested individuals. These trainings range from a multi-sectional grantwriting training to half-day workshops on team building.

Grassroots School of Grantwriting (GSG)
Intensive School of Grantwriting (ISG)
Groups and Groups Processes Training
Various Half Day & One Day Workshops
One-on-One & Groups Technical Assistance

For many of OCD's trainings there is a small training fee. This fee is generally used to cover the cost of duplication and meals. OCD offers a limited number of scholarships for each training session.

Organizing for Community Development
3 Rutgers Plaza 2nd Fl
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
(732) 932-3358

For more information, visit their web-page at ocd.rutgers.edu/mainpg.htm

NATIONAL RESOURCES

The CDC National Prevention Information Network (NPIN)

The CDC National Prevention Information Network (NPIN) develops, identifies, and collects information on the prevention, treatment, and control of HIV /AIDS, STDs, and TB and makes this information available to healthcare providers, patients, grassroots community organizations working in prevention, research, and support services. In addition to developing the Pathfinder series, NPIN offers a variety of other services, such as Comprehensive Reference and Referral Services, Online Databases, Publications Distribution Services, Resource Centers, Internet Services, Business and Labor Resource Service. To Contact NPIN Call 1-800-458-5231 (1-800-243-7012 TTY) or visit their website at <http://www.cdcpin.org> or see cdc.gov/hiv/pubs/facts.htm.

The National Institute of Health

The NIH mission is to uncover new knowledge that will lead to better health for everyone. NIH works toward that mission by, conducting research in its own laboratories, supporting the research of non-Federal scientists in universities, medical schools, hospitals, and research institutions throughout the country and abroad, helping in the training of research investigators, and fostering communication of medical formation. The NIH is one of eight health agencies of the Public Health Services which, in turn, is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. www.nih.gov/about/NIHOverview.html

The HIV/AIDS Treatment Information Service (ATIS)

ATIS is your central resource for federally approved treatment guidelines for HIV/AIDS. ATIS is staffed with bilingual health information specialists who can answer questions about HIV/AIDS treatment options using a broad network of federal, national, and community-based information resources. Telephones are answered Monday - Friday, 12 p.m.- 5 p.m. eastern time. Telephone 1-800-HIV-0440 (1-800-448-0440)

HIV/AIDS Treatment Information Service

P.O. Box 6303

Rockville, MD 20849-6303

800-448-0440

301-519-0459 International

301-519-6616 Fax

888-480-3730 TTY

<http://www.hivatis.org>

AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth and Families

AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth & Families is the only national organization focused solely on the needs of children, youth, and families living with, affected by, or at risk for HIV and AIDS.

Since its founding in 1994 as AIDS Policy Center for Children, Youth & Families, the alliance has been the leading advocate for children, youth, and families affected by HIV/AIDS. During the past several years, the mission has expanded to include not only policy analysis and advocacy, but also education and training for consumers and providers. For this reason, their name has changed to AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth & Families in early 2000.

AIDS Alliance's membership includes over 500 community-based organizations that provide HIV prevention, care and research services in 30 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Their members also include HIV-affected youth, women, and other family members throughout the nation. Many of these organizations and individuals provide or receive services funded by Title IV of the Ryan White CARE Act. Title IV funds comprehensive HIV/AIDS care services for children, youth, women and families.

AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth and Families

1600 K. Street NW, Suite 201

Washington, DC 20006

Phone: (202) 785-3564

Toll-free (888) 917-AIDS(2437)

Fax: (202) 785-3579

Website: www.aids-alliance.org

National Minority AIDS Council

The National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC), established in 1987, is the premier national organization dedicated to developing leadership within communities of color to address the challenges of HIV/AIDS.

Public Policy

NMAC's Public Policy Division works to promote sound national HIV/AIDS, health and social policies that are responsive to the needs of the diverse communities of color impacted by HIV/AIDS and to increase the participation of people of color in policy-making bodies. NMAC advocates to increase Federal resources directed to addressing the epidemic among people of color. Sponsors regional policy and advocacy skills training and technical assistance sessions for people of color; holds policy briefings on Capitol Hill; produces policy briefs and newsletters; and works in coalition with other national AIDS groups to promote the interests of people of color.

Technical Assistance

NMAC conducts individual, on-site Community Based Organization (CBO) management and organizational needs assessments in order to support long-term organizational health of front-line AIDS service organizations. Based on these needs assessments, NMAC staff prepares strategic plans to support the long-term health of these agencies, focusing on management problems and corrective actions.

National Minority AIDS Council
1931 13th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009-4432
202-483-6622
202-483-1135 Fax
<http://www.nmac.org>

American Red Cross

American Red Cross chapters, provide locally relevant, humanitarian services that help people within the community be safer, healthier and more self-reliant. Chapters determine which programs to offer based on their community's needs.

New Jersey Lead Chapter
American Red Cross of Central NJ
707 Alexander Road, Suite 101
Princeton, NJ 08540-6399
(609) 951-8550
(609) 951-9787
njredcross@njredcross.org
www.njredcross.org
National Web site and local chapters
www.redcross.org

FAITH BASED RESOURCES

Ark of Refuge, Inc.

The staff of The Ark of Refuge, Inc. has been working together since 1988 when they collectively designed a program, which became a Northern California model for promoting AIDS education in African-American Community and targeted high-risk groups.

The Ark is a nationally recognized AIDS service organization, which provides and/or coordinates a blend of:

- HIV/AIDS education
- Referrals
- Housing
- Substance abuse recovery programs
- Counseling services
- Case management
- Technical assistance and capacity building
- Community education and job readiness
- Volunteer training
- Policy formation locally, statewide, and nationally

Ark of Refuge, Inc.
1025 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 861-6130
www.arkofrefuge.org

The Balm in Gilead

The Balm in Gilead is the only organization in the United States dedicated exclusively to empowering churches in the struggle against the devastation of HIV/AIDS in the Black community. The Balm In Gilead's pioneering achievements have enabled thousands of churches to become leaders in preventing HIV by providing comprehensive educational programs and offering compassionate support to encourage those infected to seek and maintain treatment.